

**Garfield Township**  
**Un-Approved Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 25, 2016 7:00pm**

- 1. The meeting** opened at 7:00pm by Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner. Board members present were Byl, Farwell, Irwin, Yarhouse and Roland. Also attending the meeting were Garfield Township Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs; Garfield Township Blight Officer Rod Williams; Clare County Dale Majewski; Tom Pirnstill, CCTC Director; Leslie Walker, president of Friends of Garfield Township Parks and Jeanie Stewart-USDA Grant Coordinator and several candidates seeking election for various offices.
- 2. Agenda** The meeting agenda for the July 25th was approved with the addition on the Fire Truck amortization schedule. Motion by Yarhouse, supported by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried
- 3. Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the June 27th meeting were approved after a motion by Roland, and support by Irwin. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 4. Clerk report.** Voting on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 5. Treasurer's report** was approved after a motion by Irwin, seconded by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 6. Trustee Irwin** reported four roads resurfaced or re-graveled now completed. The short section on Maple Grove resurfaced last year, was resurfaced at no additional cost to the township. He reported on the use of incarcerated trustees from the county; 2 or 3 at a time; be to utilized to for community service in our area with certain stipulations, i.e. no power tools or gas mower, etc. We would need to provide transportation and a lunch and volunteer(s) to be with them at all times. Need to make a decision on the Transfer Station liability on removing metal from the transfer station. Tabled till next month.
- 7. Trustee Roland** I do not have a report and will not speak at candidates time but will speak to anyone after the meeting if they want.
- 8. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs** reported 181 runs YTD. There is a total of 23 runs for July. 20 medical, 1 car fire, 1 illegal burn and 1 mutual aid. One new firefighter, Damien Hartman, pending physical. Last month there was a question about the weather warning siren. We hired Northern Electric to check out what is wrong with the siren I went to Indiana to view nozzles and other equipment. Toured the facility and. ordered a new nozzle and saved money. Yarhouse made a motion to approve D Hartman as a new firefighter, supported by Farwell. All ayes, Motion carried.
- 9. Clare County Commissioner** Dale Majewski left the minutes of the Commissioner's meeting for those who wanted them. In addition the court house parking lot is being resurfaced this week and interviews are being conducted for the Equalization Dept. Director opening due to a recommendation from the state.
- 10. Fire Dept. Auxiliary report:** Read by K Tubbs, fire chief. Many changes in the group. Betty Tessman resigned. Sandy Guzowski is the new president with several key positions filled. A full inventory of resources has been done. Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. They also have a Facebook page to announce fundraisers and what the auxiliary is doing.
- 11. Leslie Walker,** Friends of Garfield Township Parks: group has applied for their 501©3 status. She told of the upcoming Bike Ride on August 27<sup>th</sup>; there are 20, 30 and 50 mile trips. Cost is \$20.00, with T-shirts, etc being provided.
- 12: Tom Pirnstill, CCTC Director:** Tom gave a history of the 35 years of the transit, started in 1981, a private non-profit organization. And we also work with organizations like Homeland Security, Local law Enforcement etc. He also explained some programs that assist the veterans, elderly patrons and others in the county. The transit bought 3 new busses this year, because of the 1000 miles of roads in the county, 750 which are very bumpy. He asked for voters to pass the one year mileage for the upcoming year. Then no more mileage will be voted on until 2023. From any mileage proposal, a certain amount always goes toward DPA projects; for the transit, that is about \$4,000, before the mileage is even distributed.
- 13: Sheriff Report:** Undersheriff Miedzianowski reported on the incidents in the county. He noted that the township has received stats for the county. For the township stats are down from the previous year. When questioned about the Poke'mon-Go craze and people being careless and driving, slowly, particularly at all hours of the night, he said 'if you think the driver is up to no good, then report it and if you want someone from the department to come check it out in a timely manner, you must leave your name.

**14. Candidates:** Barb Lijewski running for Township Trustee. Gary Hendershot running for Township Supervisor. Would talk to anyone after the meeting.

**Board meeting called to recess for Public Hearing at 7:45pm.**

**Public UDSDA Grant Meeting called to order:**

**15. Jeanie Stewart: USDA Rural Development:** read the conditions of receiving the grant for a Market Pavilion and Improvements. Requested \$50,000 and have been awarded \$42,500. This means that we need to raise \$55,500 through various means for the rest of the \$98,000 that the committee took into task. She also mentioned that the grant donors were here today for a visitation. She then asked for any question or concerns. Wyatt Tubbs, a young man, asked if there was a possibility for an Ice Rink in the winter like that at Shamrock Park in Clare. Answer-we will look at that. That would make it usable for all seasons. Darrel Runyon asked if the grant awarded went towards our \$98,000. Answered-Yes. He said “Awesome” Lisa Roland-Trustee, Questioned wording on page 1, Item 1 & 2 or should it be 1or 2. This is part of the match What is time limit? Answer. One year but we were told not to be concerned about it. James Carrigan, with the \$98,000 in match money. Do we need to match it again? Answer. No, this is included in our 30%. Re-explained the fund raising. Need to know how the money will be raised by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Sandy Grunwell. How will the rest of the money be raised? Answer: By fund raisers, businesses, foundations, and individual donations, sponsored bike rides, other fund raisers, etc. Gary Hendershot: When will the grant be awarded? Answer- in December Laura Sue Holcomb: Thank you, Jeanie, for all of your hard work!

**Back to the regular board meeting at 7:56pm.**

**16. Supervisor Byl reported:** 1.) Coal Chute clean-up with DNR and so many volunteers was awesome. The chute is not the responsibility of the township, maintenance will be done by the DNR. 2.) He thanked the Carrigan’s for the donation of three cement benches, probably be placed in the cemetery. 3.) Rob Jones requested the township pay his \$50.00 deductible for the repair of his truck, as the trash compactor recycled and created a glass missal when compacting trash. Motion by Farwell to pay the deductible. Supported by Yarhouse. All ayes. Motion carried. 4.) Byl received a letter from the Health Dept. about an inadequate septic system in Playland on property bought in a tax sale 2 years ago. Owner has 10 days to fix or could be arrested.

**17. Public comment:**

S J Conroy reported his son, Stephen, trying to earn his Eagle Scout award, doesn’t have enough money left after expenses already incurred in the caboose paint project. He needs \$526.27 more for paint and hardener. He has \$170.29 less \$25.00 for stencil work. Requesting the board extend the money to finish the caboose and Stephen will continue to seek donors to make up the rest of the money. Total output is \$380.98 to get paint now. Motion by Irwin to advance the money needed. Seconded by Farwell. All ayes. Motion carried.

Tom Pirnstill: Two years ago Living Hope Lutheran Church opened a Free Clothing Give-A-Way ministry and are now located in the closed Chemical Bank across from Oakridge Marathon Station. Building donated by Jim Patchaw. Open 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 9-3 and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday 9-12:30. Only good clothing is given.

Louis Tessman: Lend-A-Hand has canisters to raise money for Backpacks for Kids. He is requesting to place one at the Transfer Station. Either money or school supplies. Last year they helped 103 kids. He was asked if ‘Lend-A-Hand has a 501(c)3 designation as a charity’. No they do not, so need to apply for one. The Fire Dept. Aux no longer supports a Backpack drive due to other programs. The legality of collecting donations at a township facility must be checked with MTA. Meanwhile, a motion to have flyers given, for 2 days, July 28 & 30<sup>st</sup>, to motorists at the Transfer Station was made by Roland. Seconded by Yarhouse. Motion carried.

Jay Vaughan: requests one way signs be placed at the cemetery to direct vehicles to go only one way and eliminate driving off the road so someone can pass. This is tabled until the August, with the fence quote.

**18: Old Business:** Discussion on the matured Fire Dept. CD ensued, as related to prepayment of the Fire Truck Loan. After discussing several options of prepayment, a motion to withdraw \$50,000 from the capital budget and use the Matured CD for \$25,000 for a total of \$75,000 prepayment of principal and interest, .was made by Farwell. Supported by Yarhouse. Roll Call Vote: Farwell-Yes; Yarhouse-Yes; Byl-Yes; Irwin-Yes; Roland-Yes. Motion carried.

**19. New Business:** None.

**20. Approval of Bills:** Motion to approve the bills was made by Yarhouse., supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm